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PRE-CLIMATE CONFERENCE
metroNEWS p.10

Trudeau PROMISES TRACKER
PART IV
GENDER PARITY
TAXATION
REFUGEES
CLIMATE
INDIGENOUS WOMEN

More taxis to hit the streets

TRANSPORTATION

Accessible vehicles take precedence in board's bid to add 112 seasonal cabs

Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

The Manitoba Taxicab Board is allowing an additional 112 taxicabs onto city streets during the holiday season, up from last year's 95.

The board said the increase of 17 more cabs over last year is to help meet seasonal demand, including more cabs on the street for the upcoming Grey Cup Festival.

Of those fresh cabs, 10 of them will be accessible to people with disabilities, said the board in a press release.

"This supports the new Accessibility for Manitobans Act and the feedback the Taxicab Board has received from organizations for people with disabilities who state that more accessible vehicles are required to meet their needs," the board said.

The Independent Living Resource Centre said on Oct. 15 they were going to file a formal complaint with the Manitoba Ombudsman about a number of problems with the taxpayer-supported Winnipeg Handi-Transit service.

"People with disabilities are just as busy during this season in terms of shopping, recreation and getting ready for the holiday season. Unfortunately, accessible transportation supports are not available to meet this increased need," said John Young with the ILRC.

"The Taxicab Board should be applauded for this pro-active action in trying to meet some of the needs from the disability community and accessible transportation."

The taxis will also be allowed to operate for a longer period of time, adding a month from Nov. 2 through March 31. There will be a total of 756 taxicabs on the road during this time.

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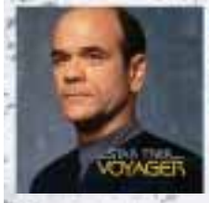

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Pet costumes a rapidly growing industry in U.S. **Business**

CITY HALL

Mayor Bowman keeps EPC intact

It appears Mayor Brian Bowman is happy with the people who currently make up his Executive Policy Committee.

On Wednesday it was announced that Bowman will keep all six members of his EPC on the committee.

Couns. Marty Morantz, Janice Lukes, John Orlikow, Brian Mayes, Jeff Browaty, and Mike Pagtakhan will all remain in place on EPC.

Coun. Browaty will now chair a new committee focused on innovation, while Coun. Mayes will head a new committee focused on the environment.

Other council members will find out what committees they will sit on at a special meeting planned for next month.

DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Mayor Brian Bowman speaks at city hall on Wednesday.
DAVE BAXTER/METRO

TRANSIT

Assault, threats on bus lead to charges

A Winnipeg man is facing charges after a bus driver was assaulted and passengers threatened.

Winnipeg police say a man who appeared to be intoxicated got on a bus near Portage Avenue and Vaughan Street around 5:45 p.m. Tuesday.

Police say the man threw change at the fare box, causing some to fall on the floor.

The driver asked the man if he had enough fare to ride the bus and that's when he was assaulted in the upper body.

Police say the struggle caused both the driver and the man to fall to the floor of the bus.

The man then fled.

METRO

SUSPECT

Charged is William James Weiss, 26.

Major capital project definition changed

CITY HALL

Threshold for regular reports raised by $10 million

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg city councillors battled Wednesday morning over whether the cost to define a major capital project should be raised by $10 million.

Despite protests from a number of councillors, city council voted 11-5 in favour of the motion, and as a result the threshold on projects that will require regular reports to the city's finance committee has now been raised from $10 million to $20 million.

That threshold has sat at $10 million since 1999.

Some councillors argued the move goes against Mayor Brian Bowman's repeated promises for transparency and accountability, but Coun. Jenny Gerbasi disagreed.

Gerbasi argued a $10 million project in 1999 is now a $20 million project due to inflation, and reminded council the recommendation for the change came from the city's auditor.

"This wasn't a political recommendation," said Gerbasi.

Gerbasi accused some councillors of "pretending to be heroes" by pushing to keep the reporting threshold at $10 million, but said leaving it at $10 million leads to "wasting of administration's time."

Coun. Russ Wyatt spoke against the change.

"We need to know how those projects are going forward, and the public needs to know that," said Wyatt. "It keeps accountability though the whole system."

Couns. Wyatt, Ross Eadie, Scott Gillingham, Shawn Dobson, and Jason Schreyer voted against the motion.

Coun. Russ Wyatt argued for keeping the threshold of major capital projects low, Wednesday, saying it would maintain more accountability. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

> **We need to know how those projects are going forward.**
> Coun. Russ Wyatt

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MOTHER KILLED

Orphaned polar bear cubs move to the zoo

The Winnipeg polar bear family just got a little bigger with two adorable additions after their mother was accidentally killed in Churchill.

"The cubs were found near their mother, who had been fatally wounded by a civilian attempting to scare the female and her cubs away from the entrance to a building with a cracker shell," reads a statement from the province.

"The shell accidentally hit the bear, leading to significant blood loss and the death of the bear. Cracker shells are a primary deterrent used to scare polar bears away from buildings and protect people in the community.

"Obviously this is a very unfortunate situation and we prefer that all polar bears remain in the wild, however we are happy that a facility such as this exists for polar bears who would otherwise not survive on their own," says Dr. Chris Enright, head of veterinary services for Assiniboine Park Zoo's polar bear rescue team.

Both cubs are in good health.
Dr. Chris Enright, Assiniboine Park Zoo

Polar bear cubs need their mothers for the first two winters of their lives to teach them how to hunt and avoid attacks by other larger polar bears.

The Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship approved the cubs' move to the zoo.

The cubs have been transported to Winnipeg and will be kept in 30-day quarantine, isolated from the public and media.

"Both cubs are in good health and are adjusting well to their new surroundings," said Enright.

MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

One of the two cubs takes in his new surroundings at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. HANDOUT/ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO

Darrell Manuliak and Anita Munn hope their tiny house business grows big. MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

Tiny homes built for life in Manitoba

$68,000

Mini houses called ideal for starter homes or downsizing

Meg Crane
For Metro | Winnipeg

Manitoba's newest custom house design company is all about scaling down — way down.

Mini Homes of Manitoba is open for business and the owners say they're already selling tiny houses.

"We've been talking about building ourselves one for years and years," said Anita Munn, who owns Mini Homes of Manitoba with Darrell Manuliak. However, they haven't gotten around to it yet as they've been too busy working on their first client's tiny home and making plans for the next two.

Munn and Manuliak are holding an open house this weekend to show off their first miniature home, which took five weeks to build and cost the customer $68,000, in hopes of lining up more projects.

"It really is the economical way to go when you're looking to build or buy a first home or downsize," Munn said.

Besides being affordable, it is eco-friendly and includes a compostable toilet, added Manuliak.

He envisions people purchasing the homes for aging parents who they want close by. The homes could also be used for adult children who haven't moved out.

When Munn and Manuliak set out, they had a different vision.

"(The houses) are registered as a camper/RV," Munn said. They build the homes on wheels so they can be transported. If taken off the wheels, the local municipality's building codes then apply, which the homes meet in Manitoba.

So far, all three buildings sold will be used as homes that people will live in year-round within the province. "It's built to withstand Manitoba weather," said Munn.

Though the houses haven't been tested to that promise, Manuliak says they've researched every material and feature of the home to make sure it is proven to keep a house warm.

The walls, ceiling and floors are insulated, and the homes boast radiant floor heating.

"We're really proud of it," Munn says.

SEE IT HERE

Open House
The Mini Homes of Manitoba open house will take place Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. at 13-1557 Brookside Blvd.

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NE104Z115

Cat shelter to close its doors

CHARITY

Bank account drained from virus outbreak, donor decline

Meg Crane
for Metro | Winnipeg

Craig Street Cats will be no more — unless it gets $50,000 and more ongoing support by Nov. 2.

The shelter has faced a series of difficult situations since last year.

In August 2014, donations slowed when construction on Madison Street made it difficult for donors to stop by the shelter, says Lynne Scott, executive director of Craig Street Cats. Then, the shelter's lease was not renewed and it was forced to move.

Most recently, a feline parvovirus outbreak racked up $50,000 in bills.

"That very quickly killed 45 of our cats and kittens, and drained our bank account," Scott said, adding those bills need to be paid by the end of October.

"If we can't do that, we need to cease operations."

She said a big part of the issue is that the shelter is not getting the ongoing financial support it needs. Currently, the regular donor pool is about $2,000 per month.

It costs $30,000 per month to run the shelter, so they rely on events and large one-time donations.

> **All we can do now is hope our supporters come through, as they have in the past.**
> Craig Street Cats executive director Lynne Scott

HISTORY, FACTS

- Craig Street Cats was founded in 2008 by Lynne Scott.
- The shelter originated on Craig Street, but grew too large to be in a private home and moved to Madison Street in 2012.
- The shelter cares for about 700 cats across Winnipeg, including in its shelter and in foster homes. METRO

"That's not any way to run an operation that has to be ongoing," Scott said, adding Craig Street Cats does more than $1 million of work per year, without actually receiving that amount of money, through the work of volunteers.

"All we can do now is hope our supporters come through, as they have in the past," Scott said.

Craig Street Cats executive director Lynne Scott says the facility is in dire need after a feline parvovirus outbreak racked up $50,000 in bills. MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

IN BRIEF

Jeff Dunham tour heading to Winnipeg in March 2016

Comic and ventriloquist Jeff Dunham will perform at the MTS Centre on March 16, says True North Sports and Entertainment.

The "Perfectly Unbalanced" international tour will follow what was supposed to be a six-month residency at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. Because of its popularity, it became a full year of his "Not Playing with a Full Deck" show at the resort.

Tickets for his Winnipeg show are available Nov. 2 at jeffdunham.com. Tickets will sell for $66. METRO

Jeff Dunham GETTY IMAGES

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Brett Kissel credits his fans for No. 1 hit

MUSIC

Country artist says his genre covers topics no other dares

Nigel Moore
For Metro | Winnipeg

If there's a good excuse for doing an embarrassing happy dance in the middle of a restaurant, Canadian country artist Brett Kissel may have found it.

Kissel, from Flat Lake, Alta., cut a rug after hearing he had earned his first chart-topping single in country radio with Airwaves, off his sophomore album Pick Me Up, released last month.

"I was in the middle of a restaurant in my hometown," said Kissel. "It truly means a great deal.... And to think, the only way to reach No. 1 is to have the support of country fans; so to know this accomplishment was achieved thanks to them was inspiring."

Country music is all about the story, and Kissel proves himself on Pick Me Up to be a capable storyteller. "As a songwriter, I'm proud to be a country artist because I feel that we are able to tell stories that other genres won't tell. I touch on topics that others don't, including tough times, cancer or car accidents. I definitely get raw and emotional with my writing," he said.

Kissel's Airwaves Tour will stop at the Club Regent Event Centre this Friday, and all are welcome.

"The fact that Club Regent has opened up the show to be an all-ages event means the world," he said. "We are going to rock that stage for country fans who may not normally get to experience what we, as a band, have to offer."

Tickets start at $31.50, available at Ticketmaster.

The Airwaves Tour will stop at the Club Regent Event Centre for an all-ages performance this Friday. CONTRIBUTED

GOOD WORKS

We Day announces this year's lineup

We Day, the yearly event that aims to inspire students to become better community and world stewards, has announced their lineup for Winnipeg.

Special guests include actress Marlee Matlin, actor Henry Winkler, rap artist Kardinal Offishall, author Amanda Lindhout, actor JR Martinez, singer/songwriter Tyler Shaw, actor Tom Jackson, motivational speaker Spencer West and the Kenyan Boys Choir.

Winnipeggers with inspiring stories, including Wab Kinew, will also take the stage to share their experiences with the more than 16,000 students in the audience, all of whom earned their ticket by volunteering in their schools or community.

The event will be co-hosted by MuchMusic's Liz Trinnear and WE Day co-founders Craig and Marc Kielburger, the brothers behind charity Free the Children.

Past guests have included actor Martin Sheen, former Soviet Union statesman Mikhail Gorbachev and former child solider Michael Chikwanine.

This year, We Day takes place at the MTS Centre on Nov. 16. METRO

Rapper Kardinal Offishall is one of the performers. CONTRIBUTED

Free The Children is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. A proudly Canadian-founded charity, it empowers millions of children both at home and abroad to create change in the world.

As the largest organization serving youth in Canada, Free The Children works domestically with 5,800 Canadian schools through our WE Schools educational program, which engages 1.4 million young people each year. We also celebrate the commitment to service of the 200,000 children who attend our signature WE Day events held in 14 cities throughout Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

Free The Children would like to thank Hartley Richardson, the Richardson Foundation and David Aisenstat for their landmark $15 million gift to establish a new and innovative Global Learning Centre. These visionaries established the concept of a permanent home for the organization and have now made this dream possible.

Using cutting-edge technology and housing a team of experts in youth leadership development, the Global Learning Centre will connect millions of young people and tens of thousands of educators to service learning initiatives. This extraordinary contribution will have a lasting impact on youth, families and schools across Canada.

80% OF ALUMNI continue to serve

83% OF ALUMNI continue to donate to charity

Marc Kielburger with Hartley Richardson, President & CEO of James Richardson and Sons, Trustee of the Richardson Foundation, and David Aisenstat, President & CEO of the Keg Steakhouse & Bar

Rendering is an artist's impression of the upcoming Global Learning Centre

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT FREETHECHILDREN.COM

UN talks fuel climate task

Each day this week, Metro is taking an in-depth look at some of the immediate items on prime minister-designate Justin Trudeau's to-do list. Today, we examine his plan to tackle climate change.

An ice floe floats on a lake in front of Solheimajokull glacier in Iceland earlier this month. Prime minister-designate Justin Trudeau, in attacking climate change, needs to bring policies and people together, as well as have binding cap requirements that make sense with respect to global objectives, according to expert Mark Jaccard. THIBAULT CAMUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

A potentially generation-defining international conference in Paris begins less than a month after Justin Trudeau becomes prime minister.

The UN conference on climate change, which begins Nov. 30, will see countries try to negotiate post-2020 targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

However, according to at least one climate policy expert, Trudeau won't actually have to do much there.

"Internationally, he's got it made because he's not Stephen Harper, so he will be loved," said Mark Jaccard, who is also a professor at Simon Fraser University's School of Resource and Environmental Management in Burnaby, B.C. "All he has to do is sound enthusiastic and say we'll do our part."

During the election campaign, Trudeau committed to attending the Paris climate conference and bringing the premiers with him. In his first post-election press conference last week, Trudeau said he had already spoken with a number of premiers about attending the conference, and that "Canada's years of being a less-than-enthusiastic actor on the climate change file are behind us."

The hard work really begins after Paris.

Trudeau also promised to hold a first ministers' meeting within 90 days to create a "pan-Canadian framework" for combatting climate change, including national emissions reduction targets.

Jaccard, who served on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and on Canada's National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, said there's more provincial will to tackle the problem than in the past.

Trudeau PROMISES TRACKER

PART IV

- GENDER PARITY
- TAXATION
- REFUGEES
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For example, in the era of the Kyoto Accord, then-prime minister Jean Chretien had "an antagonistic government in Alberta, an almost disinterested government in Quebec, and Saskatchewan and B.C. were not that keen," Jaccard said.

Now, Quebec has a cap-and-trade system. Ontario says it's negotiating its way in to link with Quebec and California. B.C. has a carbon tax, and Alberta has promised more action on greenhouse gases.

"The solution now to bring everybody under the same system is to ensure that it doesn't inadvertently become a tool of redistribution," Jaccard said. "(Trudeau) will have to figure out how to mesh divergent policies, bring laggards into some kind of national system, and then start to have binding cap requirements that make sense in terms of global goals."

The Liberals would give the provinces flexibility to set their own carbon pricing systems.

Louise Comeau, Climate Action Network Canada executive director, is "cautiously optimistic" about Trudeau's approach, but said "there's a lot of detail that needs to be filled in."

"You have to have some flexibility," she said. "But there's a difference between flexibility and loopholes. We're looking really hard here to see, is he serious?"

Trudeau should go to Paris promising to review the previous government's commitment of 30 per cent reductions by 2030, Comeau said, and agree to five-year reviews of any signed agreement.

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Sen. Patrick Brazeau has been granted an unconditional discharge after pleading guilty to assault and cocaine charges in September. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

My 'nightmare' is over: Brazeau

COURTS

But senator still facing fraud, breach of trust charges

Sen. Patrick Brazeau said Wednesday he's focused on getting back to the upper chamber "as quickly as possible" after a Quebec judge agreed to grant him an unconditional discharge on assault and drug charges.

"This nightmare, I've been living with this for two-and-a-half years and it's finally over," Brazeau said outside the courtroom in Gatineau, Que., after the decision came down.

Partway through the trial, Brazeau pleaded to reduced charges of assault and possession of cocaine, while the more serious charge of sexual assault was dropped due to a lack of evidence.

Quebec Court Judge Valmont Beaulieu read a lengthy decision that outlined why he agreed with the joint recommendation of the Crown prosecutor and Brazeau's lawyer, who urged him to grant a discharge.

The victim did not make a statement to the court before the sentencing.

Beaulieu emphasized certain extenuating circumstances, including that Brazeau had lived for several months under the cloud of being accused of sexual assault, and that the victim did not suffer any injuries.

He also noted a Supreme Court judgment that outlined how a person's public position can subject them to additional media scrutiny and public shame.

"Each time any individual — regardless of colour, creed or anything — in this country gets accusations of sexual assault, obviously it's going to taint that person's reputation," Brazeau said.

"Unfortunately, there are situations where people do commit these crimes, but I haven't."

Brazeau still faces a criminal trial for fraud and breach of trust arising from his Senate living expenses, scheduled to take place in March 2016. The trial of Sen. Mike Duffy, which involves similar issues, is set to resume next month.

"I'm certainly not a fraudster, and I'm going to fight to the end to get back my job."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BENEFITS

An unconditional discharge means embattled Sen. Patrick Brazeau avoids the prospect of jail time and even a criminal record, despite having pleaded guilty to the charges in September.

IN BRIEF

Parent irked by school's Halloween costume rules

Calgarian Natalie Hjelsvold is frustrated with the restrictions her son's elementary school has placed on his Halloween costume: no masks, no props and nothing scary. Because students may come from a range of different backgrounds and experiences, the CBE said: "It is also not uncommon for schools to ask students to avoid wearing costumes which are violent in nature or might limit the mobility of students." AARON CHATHA/METRO IN CALGARY

STUDY

Disasters breed rumour in the social-media age

A wildly inaccurate rumour flashed through social media in the panicked aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings because police did not provide information on the suspects for days, a new study concludes.

Identifying and refuting falsehoods early with clear and strong information is the best way to ensure truth wins out when terrorism or war strikes, says the research report prepared for the Canadian government.

If that doesn't work?

Fight a rumour with a sensational counter-rumour.

The study on the generation and debunking of untruths, commissioned by Defence Research and Development Canada, was recently completed by Humansystems Inc. of Guelph, Ont.

The findings could influence the Canadian military's thinking on information-related tactics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawmakers create political history

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Parliament elects Nepal's first female president

Nepalese lawmakers elected a longtime women's rights campaigner to become the country's first female president Wednesday, as the nation pushes for more gender equality in politics and work life.

Bidhya Devi Bhandari, the 54-year-old deputy leader of Nepal's Communist Party of Nepal Unified Marxist-Leninist, had lobbied actively for the new constitution to require that either the president or vice-president be a woman.

Nepal has been trying to shift from a traditionally male-dominated society, where women are mostly limited to working at homes or on farms, to one in which women have equal access to opportunities and legal rights.

Lawmakers cheered as Bhandari's name was announced as the new president. An ally and party colleague of Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli, Bhandari had been considered the favourite for the largely ceremonial job.

Bhandari said her election — by a vote of 327-214 against Congress party leader Kul Bahadur Gurung — marked a first step toward assuring the new constitutional guarantees of equality are fulfilled. The constitution, adopted last month, also requires that one-third of the country's lawmakers be women, and that women be included in all government committees.

Bhandari replaces President Ram Baran Yadav, who was elected in 2008 for a two-year term that was extended when efforts to draft a new constitution stalled over seven years.

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Bidhya Devi Bhandari waves after being elected president of Nepal in the country's capital Kathmandu on Wednesday.

NIRANJAN SHRESTHA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NIGERIA

338 Boko Haram captives freed

Nigerian troops have rescued 338 captives, almost all children and women, from Boko Haram camps in a northeastern forest, the military said Wednesday.

Thirty extremists were killed Tuesday in attacks on two camps on the fringes of the Islamic insurgents' holdout in Sambisa Forest in Nigeria, according to a Defence Headquarters statement.

Separately, troops ambushed and killed four suspects on a bombing mission in northeastern Adamawa state, it said.

Nigerian troops have rescued hundreds of Boko Haram captives this year but none of the 219 girls kidnapped from a school in Chibok town.

Their mass abduction in April 2014 sparked international outrage against the extremists and Nigeria's government for failing to rescue them. It highlighted military and government failures in fighting the six-year-old Islamic uprising that has killed an estimated 20,000 people and driven 2.3 million from their homes, according to the UN and Amnesty International.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Ryan to be next speaker, House OKs budget deal

U.S. House Republicans embraced a new leader Wednesday and consented to a major budget-and-debt deal to avert a federal financial crisis. Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan was nominated by his colleagues to serve as speaker of the House. The full House will confirm that choice on Thursday. The huge two-year budget deal struck recently between President Barack Obama and congressional leaders of both parties would raise the government's borrowing limit through March of 2017, averting an unprecedented default just days away.

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Islamic State draws recruits

RUSSIA

Fighters back at home spark fear of instability

The Russian province of Dagestan, a flashpoint for Islamic violence in the North Caucasus, is feeding hundreds of fighters to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Syria — and now some are coming back home with experience gained from the battlefield.

The departures mean the region itself has become markedly less violent recently with fewer bombings and shootings.

And the returning fighters have either landed in jail or been kept under close police surveillance. But there are long-term concerns that the presence of radical Muslims trained in ISIL warfare could lead to greater instability and violence.

Russian special force soldiers take part in an anti-terrorist operation in Makhachkala, the regional capital of Dagestan, Russia, in January 2014. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

"We can't allow them to use the experience they have just gained in Syria back home," Russian President Vladimir Putin said recently.

Eduard Urazayev, a former minister in Dagestan's provincial government, and now a political analyst, said poverty and unemployment in the region made the ISIL recruiters' job easier.

"If the high level of corruption and unfavourable socio-economic situation remain it may further fuel protest sentiments and increase sympathy for (ISIL)," Urazayev said.

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Preschool is when trials begin for black children

UNITED STATES

Suspended more often than white students

Until she attended a five-year-old's birthday party, Tunette Powell was not inclined to blame her problems on the colour of her skin.

Her four-year-old son JJ had been suspended three times from his Nebraska preschool, twice for throwing chairs and once for spitting. She didn't think it was a good idea to suspend tiny kids, but she thought it was normal.

Then, sitting in a living room last March as JJ played with his pals, she got to talking with a group of white moms.

"They were shocked that my kid was being suspended. Even with the reasons," said Powell, 29.

"They said, 'Well, my kid hit someone in the face and that kid had to go to the hospital, and all I got was a phone call.' They kept on telling me all the things their kid was doing. And at some point it was like, 'What else could there be?'"

The month of the birthday party, the U.S. Department of Education released a set of figures that confirmed Powell's suspicions.

Black children made up 18 per cent of the country's public preschool students but 42 per cent of the students suspended, 48 per cent of the students suspended more than once.

This week's viral video of a South Carolina police officer violently throwing a black high school student to the ground has reignited the U.S. discussion of the "school-to-prison pipeline": the zero-tolerance policies, discretionary "defiance" suspensions and cops-in-schools programs and that push kids, especially black kids, into the criminal justice system.

Last year's government report led some advocates to start using an amended phrase: "preschool-to-prison pipeline." The harsh discipline — and the disproportionate discipline — starts not long after kids are done potty training.

Steve Zwolak, executive director of University City Children's Center near St. Louis, described suspension and expulsion as "capital punishment for preschoolers."

"Teachers will say, 'Oh, they're acting out.' They're acting out because they don't have the words to articulate what they want to say," he said. "I think teachers are often scared of African-American boys." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DESPERATE MEASURES

MORE MIGRANTS DIE IN TRANSIT

At least 11 people, including many children, died in five separate incidents in the eastern Aegean Sea on Wednesday as thousands continue to travel from Turkey to the Greek islands in frail boats.

The Greek Coast Guard reports that 242 people were rescued near the eastern island of Lesbos after the wooden boat they travelled in capsized, but at least three people died in the sinking.

Rescuers continue to search the rough waters for more survivors, but it's unclear how many people were on the boat when it sank.

ARIS MESSINISARIS MESSINIS/ AFP/GETTY IMAGES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Oral sex causing genital herpes: WHO

Two-thirds of the world's population under 50 (more than 3.7 billion people) have oral herpes, according to the World Health Organization's first-ever global estimate for the prevalence of the virus.

The UN health agency adds that about 140 million people have been infected genitally by the oral herpes virus worldwide.

The findings, published Wednesday in the journal PLOS ONE, suggest people are getting genital herpes from oral sex.

The traditional belief that herpes type 1 is above the waist and type 2 is below is changing; a 2012 study in the Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases & Medical Microbiology found that 63 per cent of genital herpes cases analyzed were caused by the type 1 virus. Another 2003 study, also in Nova Scotia, found that herpes type 1 was the dominant virus causing genital herpes.

"I think what's really interesting about this is it really reflects behavioural changes," said Dr. Vanessa Allen, chief of medical microbiology with Public Health Ontario.

"As sexual practices change — and part of that is because people are trying to have safer and safer sex — there's some hypothesizing that this may lead to more oral sex."

In the Americas, around half of herpes type 1 infections in 2012 occurred between the ages of 15 and 49, perhaps because better hygiene and less crowded living conditions are protecting more people from contracting the virus in childhood.

This also means that more people don't have any immunity to the virus when they become sexually active, said study co-author Dr. Sami Gottlieb, a medical officer with the WHO's department of reproductive health and research.

Gottlieb hopes the new WHO study will encourage efforts to develop a vaccine or microbicide that will protect against both herpes type 1 and 2.

But until such a thing is available, the next best weapon is awareness, especially for young people, she said.

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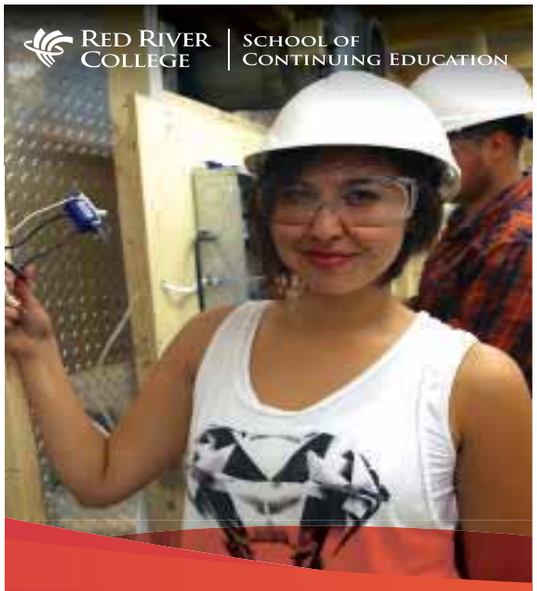

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BOMBARDIER

Rumours spur lift in sagging shares

LITIGATION

Speculation of a possible joint venture to complete development of the CSeries comes as the Toronto Transit Commission board decided at a meeting Wednesday to sue Bombardier over late delivery of streetcars.

Hopes for a government bailout prompted a surge in Bombardier shares on Wednesday ahead of what is expected to be gloomy third-quarter results.

The Quebec government declined to confirm published reports suggesting that it will announce Thursday a financial contribution to bolster the embattled transportation giant's strained cash levels.

Several media reports, all citing sources, didn't specify whether the province or Quebec's biggest pension fund manager, the Caisse de depot, would buy Bombardier shares or make some other form of financial contribution.

The Quebec-based company's stock gained strength on the Toronto Stock Exchange as the trading day progressed — closing up 11 per cent in heavy trading — but still worth far less than a year ago.

Government ministers declined to comment on the reports. But Quebec's two main opposition party leaders welcomed an expected government contribution — either through an equity investment or convertible debt. Bombardier employs nearly 18,000 people in the province, contributes to exports and bolsters innovation.

Earlier, analyst Benoit Poirier of Desjardins Capital Markets said he doubts the province will make an equity investment in Bombardier Inc., given the 62 per cent drop in the company's stock price this year.

Poirier says he suspects the province could help Bombardier by investing $1 billion to $2 billion in Bombardier Transportation to avoid a planned IPO to sell a minority stake in the rail division, or by providing favourable financing to customers that buy Bombardier Aerospace CSeries planes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canine costumes a lucrative business

DOGS

Four-legged social media celebs drive market growth

Wally the Welsh corgi used to get dressed up to go trick-or-treating for Halloween, often as a banana, once as a dinosaur.

But Wally, owned by Marc and Cynthia Dalangin of Wharton, N.J., doesn't go trick-or-treating anymore. Like a lot of busy dogs, he has too many other engagements. And as a budding Instagram celebrity, he needs a wardrobe full of costumes to choose from.

As dogs have filled their social calendars, they've had to fill their closets too. They're not just dressing up once a year on Halloween. These days, dogs and their owners are getting invited to parties, parades, meet-ups, pumpkin patches, picnics, Christmas tree farms and many other themed outings.

As a result, canine costumes have become more than just something dogs wear once to a party. It's essential for dogs and cats who are up-and-coming social media celebrities to have a varied wardrobe. With "likes" and followers growing faster than speeding bullets, their fans want new photos all the time.

Two years ago, Wally left the banana costume behind when he underwent a lifestyle and wardrobe makeover. Now he dresses like Elvis Presley and Michael Jackson, and has become a rising star on Instagram, with 63,000 followers.

ALL PHOTOS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wally's transformation coincides with the pet costume industry's coming of age. And business is booming.

The National Retail Federation estimates that 20 million pet owners will dress their pets this Halloween, spending $350 million on the costumes.

The online marketplace eBay had 1.5 million pet costumes for sale on Oct. 21 out of 800 million items listed for sale, said Zoher Kapu, vice-president of global optimization and data for eBay.

Pet costumes represent two per cent of Costume SuperCenter's sales. The company sells nothing but costumes and accessories on eBay and other sites.

"There does not seem to be a ceiling on what people are willing to spend on their pets," said Michael Esposito, the company's marketing director.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FACEBOOK

CEO defends free Net access

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg defended his company's contentious efforts to expand Internet access in the developing world during his second visit to India this year.

The company's free platform offering a basic level of Internet access via Android devices has been introduced to 24 countries and has amassed about 15 million users, mostly in Africa and Asia, Zuckerberg said at a meeting Wednesday with students.

He said it could help alleviate poverty in India by providing information to the poor and contributing to development of the economy.

The platform known as Free Basics was developed in conjunction with other tech companies and has brought a mixed response from governments and analysts. Many criticize it for lacking transparency in how information is selected for the site and favouring Facebook's own services over those of competitors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, October 29, 2015

EMMA TEITEL: ON RESEARCH FATIGUE

It seems every day the news produces a study indicating our life choices will result in illness or untimely death — followed directly by a contradictory report.

"Find what you love and let it kill you" is a quote attributed to Charles Bukowski (though no one knows whether he actually said it) and a mantra recited by starving artists who pursue their passion in the face of poverty. This week though, it could be the mantra of bacon lovers.

Bacon is one of the most adored foods on the planet, but its gradual effects, according to new findings by the World Health Organization, are potentially cancer-inducing. According to WHO, which analyzed evidence linking the consumption of processed meats like bacon, hotdogs, and sausages to cancer, a "50 gram portion of processed meat eaten daily increases the risk of colorectal cancer by 18 per cent."

You might think, well big deal, bacon never had a great reputation to begin with (its image is synonymous with obesity, heart attack, and Homer Simpson) but consider this: 50 grams of processed meat isn't even close to a Homer Simpson-sized portion. In fact, 50 grams of bacon amounts to roughly only two slices — and who can honestly eat less than two slices of bacon?

Nobody. This is why the WHO findings have gone astronomically viral, inspiring doom-laden headlines at an alarming rate, some of which include: "Bacon kills?" and "Put down the hotdogs and salami." Coupled with this bacon scare is additional bad news for processed meat lovers: Clear Food, a lab that analyzes food "at a molecular level," recently released a study indicating two per cent of the hotdogs they tested contained human DNA. (Great news: Your love of processed meat may not only kill you; it may also turn you into a cannibal).

So what is the truth? If you don't eat bacon every day, you are probably OK.

BAD BREAKFAST? Though people may be initially put off by the idea of a plateful of carcinogens, they reportedly tend to return to their regular habits a short time after learning about damning research. EJWHITE/ISTOCK

In other uplifting public health news this month, a meat sauce sold in Ontario and Quebec grocery stores was recalled because it may contain dangerous bacteria.

It seems every day the news cycle produces a study indicating that our life choices will result in illness or untimely death — followed directly by a contradictory report or article explaining why the original study is inaccurate, overblown or misguided.

Take the recent influx of news stories about senior citizens who — contrary to the WHO finding — have lived long, happy lives chock full of bacon. According to USA Today, 116-year-old Susannah Mushatt Jones "keeps a steady diet of bacon, eggs and grits for breakfast," and hangs a sign in her kitchen that reads "Bacon makes everything better." Processed meat won't give you cancer; it will make you immortal!

I don't know about you, but I find this public health news cycle extremely confusing and exhausting. It's a feeling I've dubbed "research fatigue," and I'm probably not the only person suffering.

"They've actually done studies to show that people start to tune out when they hear these alarmist headlines about 'everything causes cancer,'" says Tim Caulfield, University of Alberta professor and Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy. "If the message is too confusing and too conflicting, people stop listening. These conflicting stories make it hard for people to hear the truth through the noise."

So what is the truth? If you don't eat bacon every day, you are probably OK. Caulfield says it's important for people to understand the difference between "relative risk" and "absolute risk."

"Your absolute risk of ... colon cancer throughout your lifetime is four per cent to five per cent," he says. This means excessive bacon eating, according to the WHO finding, can increase your risk of cancer by "18 per cent out of four to five per cent." In those terms, "the absolute increase in risk isn't really that much," says Caulfield.

The sad thing is that even when people aren't affected by research fatigue — i.e. when they do try to change their eating habits, they rarely succeed. "There may be a momentary shift," says Caulfield, in which people eat healthier, but "after a little bit of time they regress back to their old behaviour."

For now, the bacon train seems to be chugging along just fine. Andrew Motta, owner of Toronto restaurant Bacon Nation, home of the "peanut butter bacon milkshake," says he has received no complaints from customers worried about the WHO finding. In his words: "You hear bacon is bad today and next week, it's going to be 'nine healthy reasons you should eat bacon.' You've just gotta take it with a grain of salt." Or if you're so inclined, a bucketload.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star. She has been a front-of-the-book columnist for Maclean's magazine for the past four years, focusing on a wide range of subjects including women's issues and popular culture. She won the National Magazine Awards gold award for columns in 2013.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

There's no shame in crying over abuse allegations at Val d'Or

You would have to be there, in Val d'Or, Que., to claim, as many have, that the town is in crisis.

But clearly it is the next flashpoint for fury over the treatment of indigenous Canadians.

The tensions mounting in Val d'Or, population 32,000, are about much more than one set of allegations of police sexually and physically abusing indigenous women.

So, too, are the tears of the provincial public safety minister, shed in response to those allegations, much more than a single show of emotion. In fact, her tears are pivotal.

Lise Theriault was asked how the claims made her feel. She hesitated. Tears welled. Her voice wavered when she answered: "As shocked as the rest of the population."

Watching her, my mind flew to a few weeks ago, when I'd walked through a memorial for missing and murdered indigenous women in Ottawa. It's set up as a semicircle, lined with rows of multicoloured moccasin uppers waiting to be sewn in, a metaphor for the unfinished lives.

The travelling exhibit (booked, incredibly, through 2019) is a kind of ceremony, and not even a tear is inconsequential. Used tissues are collected and included in a ceremonial fire. I watched my cousin — a young mother — cry and cry, overcome.

Tears help participants viscerally, physically "share ... the grieving process all the families and friends have gone through," so it feels like something real instead of a news item, says Kara Louttit, who was raised in Val d'Or and volunteers with the memorial, Walking with Our Sisters. That's what makes Theriault's moment of emotion so powerful. She didn't simply call the allegations upsetting. She actually got upset.

Of course, not all see it that way. Parti Quebecois members have called for her resignation, citing in part her "erratic" behaviour. Police officers felt betrayed. I can see why they are demanding to be presumed innocent.

But I can also see why many others presume the complainants are telling the truth.

Chastising the minister for her tears ignores the wider injustice she is responding to, the pervasive oppression of indigenous people.

Politicians cry over many things — their grandmothers, their colleagues, their own jobs. Theriault cried for an often disempowered and alienated few.

There will be an investigation — by Montreal police, with independent oversight — and officers will have the fullness of our justice system to counter the allegations.

They've always had that, plus the power offered to them as officers in the first place. Now indigenous women are wielding a new, belated power: Recognition.

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Has Alber Elbaz quit Lanvin for fashion's revolving Dior?

Inside Garance Doré's style

MEMOIR

What blogging taught fashion insider about love, style, life

Henrietta Walmark
Metro | Canada

Style influencer and fashion blogger Garance Doré has added author to her list of accomplishments with the publication of her book, Love Style Life (Spiegel & Grau, $39).

The French illustrator and photographer is the only blogger to win the Council of Fashion Designers of America Eugenia Sheppard Media Award (an award she shared with her former boyfriend Scott Schuman a.k.a. The Sartorialist). She produced a Pardon My French video series and her own line of stationery, as well as collaborating with luxury shirt brand Equipment on a capsule collection featuring her signature illustrations.

So why write a book, Metro asked Doré in a phone interview from New York City where her studio is based.

"It took me a long time to come up with the right idea of what I wanted to do because the blog is such a great way to express yourself. It's not like I was in need of more self expression," says Doré, laughing. "But the idea of a book is that it's a wonderful self-contained object."

The book is gorgeous. Compact and bound in a soft embossed cover the colour of ballet slippers, Love Style Life feels as intimate as a personal notebook. Like Doré's eponymous blog, the memoir is packed with her street photography, distinctive script and illustrations and candid storytelling.

Describing her blog as an ongoing story where it's often hard to see the big picture, she says: "With a book you can be much more clear about your message and what you want to say. That's why I wanted to do a book."

Doré built her message into the structure of Love Style Life. She wanted to talk about style not only because her quest for style brought her to where she is today, but also because of what she learned during a decade of blogging.

"What I love about the people that inspire me to take their photo I realized, is it's not so much about the clothing that they wear. It's that the clothes are an expression of who they are," she says. "That is real style."

The book is divided into five sections: Doré describes Style as the exterior, Métier as career, Beauty as our intimate relationship with ourselves, Elegance as how to be in the world, and, finally, there is Love.

"If you look at the structure," she says, "it's from the outside to the inside. That's a journey that I've been through and style is the sum of all that."

Doré hopes readers will get to see her in a different light through the book. "To be very honest," she says, "there are some subjects I don't really touch on the blog because of the nature of the Internet, and I go into that world." She reveals the arc of her high-profile relationship with fellow blogger Schuman, and much more about her personal life, from teenage loves to a serious romance with a woman.

"I'm trying to share and to be inspiring because when I was young I couldn't find people that inspired me to be myself," says Dore, "(people) that didn't do the things they were supposed to do, but it was still OK."

Garance Doré's Love Style Life (top left) includes her illustrations and photos from her life (top right). CONTRIBUTED

ERIK MELVIN/GARANCE DORÉ STUDIO

BOOK TOUR
- Montreal: Nov. 9
- Toronto: Nov. 10

More details at lovestylelife.com.

PARISIAN OR NEW YORKER?

We asked Doré what about her is typically French. "I'm very frank," she says. "I say things ... In America, people are actually more scared of their feelings and emotions."

Then we asked what is most American about her.

"My boyfriend," Doré says, laughing. "Oh my god, there are so many things. First, I say 'oh my god' all the time. My most American thing I do is drink my coffee from a (take-out) cup. That's very American."

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The bear behind the famous tale

FINDING WINNIE

New kids' book retells classic Canuck WWI story

Before there was Pooh, Tigger or Eeyore, there was a real bear cub and a helpful veterinarian pal, who were both from Canada.

The new children's book Finding Winnie, which is being eyed for a film adaptation, tells the real Canadian story that inspired A. A. Milne's classic Winnie-the-Pooh tales.

The author is Toronto-based Lindsay Mattick, whose great-grandfather was that very vet, Harry Colebourn of Winnipeg.

"I want people who love Winnie-the-Pooh to understand that the real story behind her is just as beautiful and just as amazing," said Mattick, who has already sold the big-screen rights to the newly published book.

"I'm still blown away that, while a lot of people in Canada certainly know the story and know the history now, around the world it's really still not known.

"People don't even realize that there was a real bear."

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear is told through a bedtime story session between a mother and her young son, Cole.

As the mother tells Cole in the book, Colebourn was sent away from Winnipeg in 1914 to tend to soldiers' horses overseas.

During a stop on a train platform in White River, Ont., he met a man sitting with a gentle black bear cub and gave him $20 for it, thinking he could take good care of it along his journeys.

Colebourn and the soldiers bonded with and trained the cub, which he called Winnipeg (Winnie). She even became the mascot of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade.

But Colebourn realized he eventually had to give her up, so he brought her to the London Zoo, where he later checked in on her to ensure she was well cared for.

That's where a young boy named Christopher Robin Milne grew to love her — a bond that eventually inspired his dad, Alan Alexander Milne, to write Winnie-the-Pooh.

Sophie Blackall illustrates the book, which includes archival photos.

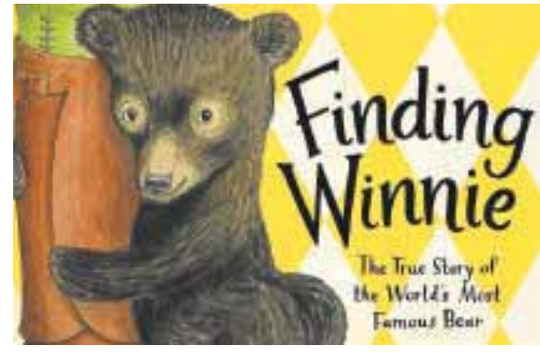
Lindsay Mattick is the great-granddaughter of Harry Colebourn, original owner of Winnie the bear. HANDOUT

"There are two main emotional takeaways from the book: one is the dedication, which is this idea that you never know the impact that one small loving gesture can have," said Mattick.

"It's like when my great-grandfather 100 years ago just bought a bear because he loved animals. He couldn't have been thinking that much more than, 'Hey, this will bring a lot of joy to me, to my fellow soldiers.'

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"There are two main emotional takeaways from the book: one is the dedication, which is this idea that you never know the impact that one small loving gesture can have."
Author
Lindsay Mattick



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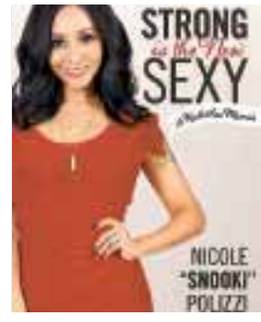
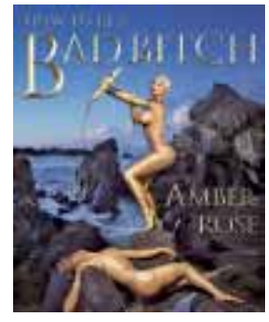
3 CELEB ICON BOOKS

While high-brow books like Garth Risk Hallberg's City Of Fire are worth carving out time for, sometimes a light read is necessary. Here are three books about pop icons out this month. EMILY LAURENCE/METRO



Strong Is The New Sexy by Nicole Polizzi

Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi went from the crazy drunk party girl we all loved on Jersey Shore to a healthy, happy, married mother. If you're a wild child looking to settle down, you'll enjoy Polizzi's tips on everything from working out to locking it down with your S.O. Taking life advice from Snooki? How times have changed.



How To Be A Bad Bitch by Amber Rose

Amber Rose's definition of "bad bitch" is "a self-respecting, strong female who has everything together." The model and actress offers tips on how to do it all in this book, while telling her life story, starting from growing up in a rough side of Philly. Also included are tons of never-before-seen photos from her life in and out of the spotlight.

Kim by Sean Smith

Cosmopolitan recently dubbed the Kardashian-Jenner clan "America's First Family" and at its center is Kim, not just a person but a multi-million dollar franchise queen. Celebrity biographer Sean Smith takes readers through Kim's life and includes some little-known facts. It takes fans truly behind-the-scenes, even more so than the celebrity's infamous E! reality show.

GOSSIP THE LATEST IN CELEBRITY COUPLING OR UNCOUPLING NEWS

Emma and Andrew for never

I guess Emma Stone and Andrew Garfield really are never, ever, ever getting back together. Hollywood's coolest couple, who have been "on a break" for most of the year, have apparently officially broken up. Like, a couple of months ago. How do we know this? Because Garfield, who is filming in Sydney, was spotted by a fan leaving a bar with a mystery woman on his arm. When the fan shouted, "Where's Emma Stone?" Garfield apparently responded, "We're not together anymore," according to KIIS FM. I'll understand if you need a minute. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

Shelton wants you to know it's all good

Good news, folks. Blake Shelton is totally fine with people making jokes about his divorce from Miranda Lambert. In fact, he's totally ready for them. "This year's going to be awkward at the CMAs, speaking of jokes," he told Seth Meyers. "There's got to be one about me and Miranda. Brad Paisley is not doing his job if he doesn't look down there and go, 'Ha ha!' ... We've had conversations like, 'OK dude, I'll sit there and let you kick me in the face a few times.'" I might actually watch the CMAs. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

FASHION

Marc Jacobs' party pinch

INSTAGRAM

According to the New York Post, fashion designer Marc Jacobs hosted a "wild orgy" over the weekend with invitations sent out to ten or so young men via Grindr, a gay hook-up and dating app.

"A source who claimed to have attended the all-male flesh bacchanal told us Jacobs sent guests a shirtless shot, seemingly posing in a walk-in closet, showing his washboard abs — plus two more pics with no pants from the side and back," the Post wrote. According to this source, "Everyone was in their 20s," and attendees allegedly "were using drugs 'G,' for club drug GHB, and 'Tina,' a form of crystal meth." Jacobs himself responded to reports of his hosting a "wild orgy" on Instagram: "Goodbye (for now) Grindr! It was fun for "group" get togethers but what really excites me is my work!" MATT LEE/METRO NEW YORK

HORROR

The Conjuring of a lawsuit

CONTRIBUTED

The family that lives in the Rhode Island farmhouse depicted in The Conjuring is now suing Warner Bros. because the attention the movie has brought them has made life less than awesome. "The biggest fear is that every day we live with the fact that we don't know what may happen," Norma Sutcliffe told CBS This Morning. "We've had harassing phone calls in the middle of the night. They've had discussions about destroying the house because it's so full of evil. It's a violation of our privacy, but they think they have the right to do it." Sutcliffe and her husband are seeking monetary damages and a state-of-the-art security system. Fine, but can we talk a sec about how awesome The Conjuring was? NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

Khloe kind of mad at People

DIVORCE FILING

It's still unclear whether Odom and Kardashian are back together

So there's this new interview with Khloe Kardashian in People magazine where she basically says that even though she and Lamar Odom have called off their divorce, it doesn't mean they're actually back together. Except Kardashian herself takes issue with it since most of the interview happened before Odom's collapse, despite how the story is presented.

"My people cover, I shot and interviewed for prior to all the events that happened," she clarified on Twitter. "I had to do a follow-up five-minute phoner after the events only because I was contracted to. I canceled my book tour to avoid this attention." Huh. It's not like a Kardashian to avoid attention.

So what was it the magazine printed that she take such issue with?

Probably this: "It's out in the media that we are back together, but I wish people understood that's not in our thought process right now. There are too many other important things, too many medical things. It's not even in our brains thinking about us as a couple or having a relationship right now."

Still, Kardashian and Odom have filed a court petition dismissing a divorce filing. "I pulled back on the divorce because there is no rush for it," she told the magazine. "For medical decisions and a ton of other things, it's just smarter that it's put on hold. But that does not mean I'm back with Lamar.... Only time will tell."

According to search warrant records, Odom is believed to have overdosed on cocaine and other drugs before he was found unconscious at the Love Ranch brothel in Crystal, Nevada. He was hospitalized in Las Vegas and transferred to Los Angeles, where his family said on Oct. 22 that he was undergoing therapy and showing improvement.

Kardashian said Odom has a long road to recovery. "Every hour is different," she said. "It goes up and it goes down. Things are progressing, but it's a very serious situation."

A clerk granted an Oct. 21 request to dismiss their divorce filing from December 2013 in such a way that the divorce papers can be filed again at a later date.

Khloe Kardashian GETTY IMAGES

"I love Lamar, and I'll always be there for him like I promised," Kardashian said.

Authorities haven't ruled out the possibility of taking action against the brothel or Odom.

Odom's one-month courtship of Kardashian before their 2009 wedding was taped for the E! network, and Odom appeared on nearly two dozen episodes of Keeping up With the Kardashians as well as other family spin-offs, including their Khloe & Lamar show in 2011 and 2012. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

Ikea partners with DreamWorks to launch Lattjo play collection

What they're a$king

Two-bedroom condominium suites offer homeowners a decent amount of living space with the convenience of condo living. These featured resale residences are ready to move in, and vary in price according to location, size and finishes. **Duncan McAllister** FOR METRO

ASKING PRICES WERE ACCURATE AT TIME OF PUBLISHING.

$319,900

Winnipeg

This 1,172-sq.-ft., rarely available, two-bedroom, two-bathroom suite at 1820 Henderson Hwy. features an open-concept living and dining room with space for a large family table, which leads to a fully enclosed, east-facing balcony. The kitchen includes all appliances, and the master bedroom has a large walk-in closet and four-piece en suite. Condo amenities include a common room with pool table and a large park-like outdoor space. Chad Friesen is a sales representative with Ethos Realty Inc., 204-888-3393.

$232,000

Calgary

Here's a two-bedroom condo that's located on the third floor. This very bright and open suite offers a good-sized kitchen with lots of counter space and a nook area. There is a spacious living room that features patio doors that lead to the deck, a four-piece bathroom and en-suite laundry. The master bedroom offers a full en suite and an underground parking stall is included. Tim Lind and Richard Fleming are sales representatives for RE/Max Real Estate Mountainview, 403-333-0837.

$799,800

Toronto

This elegant two-bedroom unit is located in the highly desirable Yonge and Eglinton neighbourhood, soon to be serviced by the new Eglinton Crosstown LRT. This quiet corner suite has 1,427 sq. ft. of living space and a balcony. There's a large dining and living area with crown moldings. The master bedroom has three large closets and a five-piece en suite. The unit includes two parking spots and a locker. Listing agent Ira Jelinek is with Harvey Kalles Real Estate Brokerage, 416-464-1022.

$399,900

Ottawa

Here's a modified two-bedroom, two-bathroom unit located on the quiet and bright east side of this Domicile building. Built in 2013, the condo is on the border of Wellington West and Hintonburg. The suite features modern finishes throughout with additional built-in storage, and includes an underground parking space and storage locker. The building has a well-equipped gym and a guest suite. Kerry Millican is a sales representative with Royal LePage Team Realty, 613-729-9090.

$869,900

Halifax

This 2,167-sq.-ft. condo in Bedford has plenty of upgrades. Listing agent Cheryl Jenkins says this unit has the best view at the Dockside Condominiums with the panoramic harbour, bridges and marina vistas. The condo features a top-floor lifestyle with an open-concept layout and hardwood floors. The kitchen has a walk-in pantry and the master bedroom has a walk-in closet and en suite with a soaker tub and two sinks. Jenkins is with Keller Williams Select Realty, 902-403-6655.

$475,000

Vancouver

This two-bedroom, two-bathroom suite built in 2012 is in a quality Bosa building in the Brentwood Park area in Burnaby. There's an open kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and a gas stove with convection oven; colour scheme by interior designer Cristina Oberti for the kitchen; and spa-like bathroom fixtures. The bedrooms feature thermally-insulated blackout shades, and a water purification tap. Listing agent is Keith Roy with RE/Max Select on Main Street, 604-210-2933.

$975,000

Edmonton

Here's a luxury two-bedroom penthouse in Meridian Plaza. The unit features 1,636 sq. ft. of living space, two bathrooms, two underground parking stalls, and hand-scraped walnut hardwood flooring. The kitchen features a huge island and a one-slab granite countertop. There are two fireplaces, and a hot tub on one of the two balconies. The large master suite features a spa-like en suite including a walk-in closet. Brent MacIntosh is a sales representative with RE/Max River City, 780-920-0384.

The best of both worlds for homebuyers

There's a growing realization among Winnipeg homebuyers. While a single-family home is desirable, they can be a lot of effort to maintain.

As a result, townhomes have become the perfect happy medium, according to Jessica Willis, sales and marketing manager at StreetSide Developments.

Bluestem Condominiums, a collection of townhomes by StreetSide Developments located in the Sage Creek area, were built to provide that low-maintenance lifestyle, while holding on to all the space and comfort of a single-family home.

"A well-designed townhome is the best of both worlds," says Willis. "Bluestem homes have features like attached garages and multi-level living that give them the feel of a detached house, while at the same time providing the ease of maintenance and affordability of a condominium."

"It's the difference between worrying about cleaning out your eavestroughs and shoveling your walk in the winter, and being free to spend that time on personal projects, enjoying social time with family and friends, and relaxing," she says.

Home sizes at Bluestem range from 1,349 to 1,552 square feet to suit any buyer. The two-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath suites are a luxurious approach to multi-family living, proving there's no need to sacrifice square footage and living space in attached homes.

Seasonal outdoor spaces are available on the main level with its generous front porch, and the second floor is home to a sun deck — perched right off your kitchen for all your grilling needs.

While the three-storey homes are all plenty spacious for any home owner, couples, families and downsizers will appreciate the extra features of the 1,549 sq. ft. Tamarack plan, including the 12-foot kitchen island and double attached garage.

No matter which model you choose, your home at Bluestem will be highly functional, comfortable, and beautifully appointed with a variety of designer-selected finishings.

CONTRIBUTED

Everyday conveniences at your doorstep

The neighbourhood is just as much of an advantage. The Sage Creek area is full of great everyday amenities.

The new Sage Creek Village Centre, just a short walk away, includes a Sobeys market, Shoppers Drug Mart, a brand-new liquor mart and more.

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FLOORS WITH PERSONALITY

Real quality is impossible to fake, especially when it comes to flooring.

That's why, whether you're renovating or building a new home from the ground up, finding the right flooring provider is critical, according to Paul Piltzmaker, sales manager of The Floor Show, a provider of high-quality flooring options in Winnipeg.

The Floor Show is known for only stocking excellent quality custom flooring. Walk into the store and you'll find one of the largest selections of carpets, hardwoods, laminate and tiles in Manitoba.

The tight-knit team at The Floor Show treat each other like family, and customers are welcomed just as warmly. Floor Show staff help customer with every aspect of the floor buying process, from selection to costing, delivery and installation.

Not only does the flooring need to be of top quality, it should suit the look and feel you're going for in your home.

"Your floor can be incredibly high quality and beautiful, but if it doesn't match the esthetic and personality you're going for, your flooring experts have missed the mark," says Piltzmaker.

The Floor Show experts help guide customers through the decision-making process to find the perfect flooring that will last a lifetime.

"At its best, great flooring welcomes your guests and expresses your personality," says Piltzmaker. "That's what the team at The Floor Show can help you discover."

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How to prevent dryer fires in your home

SHUTTERSTOCK

It's getting chilly out and your clothes line isn't going to cut it anymore for clothes drying. But did you know that your dryer requires regular maintenance to operate properly?

In fact, regular dryer vent cleaning can not only save you money, but can help prevent dryer-caused fires.

Clothes dryers are associated with about 15,000 fires, 10 deaths, and 310 injuries, and $84,000,000 in property damage every year, according to the Consumer Products Safety Commission.

The warning signs to look for are clear. Do your dark clothes often have lint on them when you pull them out of the dryer? Do your loads take longer than they should? Is the top of your dryer abnormally hot?

Even if you're not sure, if you've never had your dryer checked out, chances are that its vents could benefit from professional cleaning.

"It's a simple process that can have disastrous consequences. Over time the lint from your dryer can build up in the vent and cause an air blockage that prevents your clothes and linens from being dried properly, and that increases the risk of a fire," says Eslam Mohamed, owner of Dryer Vent Doctor, a dryer vent specialist based in Winnipeg that provides commercial and residential dryer vent cleaning services. "The simple solution is to call a dryer vent specialist and have your dryer cleaned out frequently. It's quick, easy and helps prevent a serious fire hazard."

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manitobahousing

Exchange rate makes it ideal time to cash in

SHUTTERSTOCK

While the low Canadian dollar may be dissuading you from travelling south of the border right now, it should be encouraging you to rummage through your old jewellery boxes. That's because, says the president of Winnipeg Gold Buyer, the poor exchange rate actually makes it an ideal time to cash in.

"The price of gold is quoted, internationally, in U.S. dollars," says Mark Rzepka. "Therefore, the current U.S.-Canadian exchange rate actually works in favour of people looking to sell their gold for Canadian dollars."

Winnipeg Gold Buyer, a fully licensed business with three easily accessible locations across Winnipeg (1147 Henderson Highway, 628 St. Anne's Rd. and 3127 Portage Ave.), accepts gold and other precious metals such as silver and platinum. While, says Rzepka, jewellery is the most common selling item, coins, old paper currency, war medals, silverware, dental gold, diamonds, nuggets and gold or silver bars are also of value.

"Most people choose to liquidate gold (and silver) jewellery when they are going through some type of transition," he says. "Perhaps they are in the process of cleaning or down-sizing, settling the estate of a loved one or just looking for some extra cash to spend and enjoy."

Overall, in 2015 the price of gold, says Rzepka, has been healthy. In fact, he says, this year gold is actually positioned to have its strongest annual gain of the last three years. However, like any commodity, it is subject to the ups and down of the market.

"Nobody can accurately predict where the price will go on a forward basis," he says. "That's why if you're looking to sell right now, you should deal with a large, reputable company, ensure that your items are weighed and evaluated right in front of you and make sure to get paid in full and in cash.

"Winnipeg Gold Buyer, for example, is a long-established and family-run business that provides a safe, friendly and respectful environment in which to conduct your business. We offer very competitive rates and all of our payments are made immediately and in cash." For more information, visit winnipeggoldbuyer.com.

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According to FOX, the World Series opener received a 9.0 rating — the highest-rated Game 1 since 2009

CFL IN BRIEF

Former Winnipeg running back signs with Edmonton

The Edmonton Eskimos have signed international running back Nic Grigsby.

Grigsby rushed for 890 yards and nine touchdowns last year in his rookie season with Winnipeg and Hamilton. He helped the Tiger-Cats advance to the 2014 Grey Cup by rushing for 93 yards and two touchdowns in Hamilton's 40-24 win over Montreal in the CFL East final.

He struggled through injuries this season, recording 59 yards on 10 carries and 16 yards on three receptions, before being released by the Ticats.

Prior to the CFL, Grigsby spent time in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins, Oakland Raiders and Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stampeders' Hughes out with broken hand

Calgary Stampeders defensive end Charleston Hughes has a broken hand and will miss at least the final two games of the CFL's regular season.

The football club announced the injury Wednesday on Twitter. Hughes ranks second on the team in sacks with 10 behind Freddie Bishop III, who has 11.

The Stampeders (12-4) need to win their last two games and for Edmonton Eskimos (13-4) to lose Sunday to Montreal to claim first place and the division final. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bombers out of mulligans

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

The 5-12 Winnipeg Blue Bombers are currently on their bye week. Unfortunately for their long-suffering fans, barring a miracle, that will be followed with bye-bye week, as in pack up the equipment and move on after another failed season without a playoff berth in the nine-team CFL.

The last playoff game the Bombers played in was the 2011 Grey Cup. Since then, the club has seen an overhaul in every area of the organization, including three head coaches, two general managers and two CEOs, producing a record of 21-50.

Questions are being asked about where the club is in its quest to return to respectability and the CFL playoffs. Two full years into the Kyle Walters-Mike O'Shea era, it's hard to argue this team is on the precipice of being a contender.

But with so much upheaval over the last four years can the team afford to turn things over and start up again with a new regime?

After two years with Kyle Walters as GM, it's still not clear if the Bombers are much further along than they were when he took over the player personnel duties.

Drew Willy was acquired and performed admirably, but suffered behind an offensive line that nearly got him killed on many occasions. The lack of a legit backup quarterback exposed the team when Willy was injured, as the Bombers' 2-8 record this season without No. 5 indicates.

Matt Nichols and the other Blue Bombers quarterbacks have found it challenging trying to stay on their feet this season. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Canadian talent on the roster has been turned over, but with the exception of Jamal Westerman, the expected results haven't followed. Big money was spent to reinforce the O-line, but Bombers quarterbacks are still terrorized on a weekly basis.

Head coach Mike O'Shea also finds himself on the hot seat. A rookie last year as the bench boss, O'Shea has proved to be a popular coach to his players, but has had a difficult time winning games.

I've been impressed by the lack of quit O'Shea's team has shown this season. Unfortunately the reason the team has had the opportunity to show it "hasn't quit" is that they routinely start games in quicksand and find themselves trailing by large margins. Or hanging games on the back of a defensive unit that frankly deserved better most of this season.

Whether it is a lack of preparation or motivation, it falls on the head coach. And for a special teams lifer, O'Shea has presided over a team that has been hurt far more than it has been helped by the special teams units this season.

I expect Walters and O'Shea to return next season as GM and coach of the team but the pressure is different now. The mulligans are all used up. Win or else.

Apathy has crept into the fan base and despite the wonderful stadium, it is getting more difficult by the week to get fans out to IGF to see the Bombers take it on the chin.

If the Blue Bombers are not vastly improved next season and back in the playoffs, Wade Miller will have to blow it up and start all over again. Again.

WEEK 19

Friday

B.C. (6-10) at Toronto (9-7)

Saturday

Saskatchewan (2-14) at Calgary (12-4)

Ottawa (10-6) at Hamilton (10-6)

Sunday

Montreal (6-10) at Edmonton (13-4)

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Ehlers easily passes his nine-game test for Jets

THE HOCKEY NEWS

Matt Larkin

The Connor McDavid experience has been just what we thought it would be so far. Max Domi looks like he'll be thrice the player his father was. But there's another rookie we need to talk about more. His name is Nikolaj Ehlers. He's finally a Winnipeg Jet after laying waste to the QMJHL over the past couple years. And it doesn't appear he's ever returning to major junior.

Ehlers has already been a household name at The Hockey News' office for a year or two now. He was the single fastest player I saw live last year, having caught him at the world junior championship when he suited up for Denmark.

His wheels are in that special stratosphere reserved for Marian Gaborik in this generation and, before, it, Pavel Bure. Ehlers is also blessed with a quick release. The puck seems to pop off his stick and toward the top of the net before goaltenders know what's happening.

That skill set and his general hockey smarts helped earn Ehlers the No. 4 overall rating in our Future Watch edition of THN last season. A panel we assembled of NHL scouts and GMs thought that highly of him. And so far, Ehlers has lived up to the hype at the NHL level, ripping three goals and six points in his first eight starts. He's been a nice fit on the second line with Mathieu Perreault and Mark Scheifele. The trio have combined to rank first (Perreault), second (Ehlers) and third (Scheifele) on the Jets in score-adjusted Corsi, the puck possession metric that tracks their shot attempts versus shot attempts allowed. They have been dominant.

Ehlers' 10th NHL game rapidly approaches. Returning Ehlers to junior would mean the team doesn't burn the first year of his entry-level deal, but it's ludicrous to imagine that happening now. He's locked up his spot, and he'll play Game 10. He has nothing left to prove in junior and, more importantly, the Jets need Ehlers. He's a big reason why they rank fourth in the NHL in goals per game. It's a small sample, but that's still a positive omen for a team that finished 16th last year.

58.19

Nikolaj Ehlers' score-adjusted 5-on-5 Corsi percentage, good for second on the Jets.

Denmark also shouldn't count on its star sniper at the 2016 World Junior Championship. Ehlers will be eligible when the tourney arrives in December, as he doesn't turn 20 until February. But the Jets need him too much at this point. If they continue their growth into a premier offensive team, he'll be the driving force.

Winnipeg Jets' Nikolaj Ehlers celebrates his goal against the Tampa Bay Lightning in Winnipeg last Friday. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Beeston silent on future of Jays' GM

Outgoing Blue Jays president Paul Beeston says he won't comment on the future of general manager Alex Anthopoulos because "Alex always likes to keeps his affairs private and I think I have to respect that."

"At some point in time I may be prepared to talk about it. But I think right now I would say I've got nothing to say about it," Beeston said Wednesday in a radio appearance on Sportsnet 590 The Fan. "I just hope it all works out."

Anthopoulos, whose deal expires this week, deflected questions about his contract status during his season wrap-up news conference Monday.

"The appropriate time is not today."

Alex Anthopoulos when asked about his contract at a news conference Monday

"That will be addressed at the appropriate time," Anthopoulos said then. "The appropriate time is not today."

He will be dealing with new Toronto president Mark Shapiro, who is set to succeed the retiring Beeston. "There is not anything I'm going to say about Alex other than the fact that his affairs are private," Beeston said.

Beeston did acknowledge that Anthopoulos is "kind of my horse." Anthopoulos, then assistant GM, took over after Beeston fired J.P. Ricciardi as general manager in 2009. He helped the Jays to the American League Championship Series this season with a string of high-profile moves at the trade deadline.

"I've watched this man grow into the job," Beeston said. "It's very funny that after six years he is kind of like what a player would be — he's kind of a free agent in some respects. He is in his best years right now. He has learned a lot from his mistakes. We all make mistakes — some were public, some that aren't public. He's learned from that, he doesn't make the same mistake twice. And he's got guts, he's got everything else.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Following their win in a five-hour epic, the Royals took a 1-0 lead over the Mets into Game 2 of the World Series. Go to metronews.ca for coverage from Wednesday night.

SOCCER

Seven in running for FIFA president

Seven men are in the running to replace Sepp Blatter as FIFA president, with Michel Platini's candidature accepted but pending because of his suspension from soccer.

FIFA published the list of valid applications "proposed in due time and form" on Wednesday. It did not include former Trinidad and Tobago player David Nakhid, who did not have the five required nominations.

The seven candidates for the Feb. 26 election are: Platini, Prince Ali bin al-Hussein, Gianni Infantino, Tokyo Sexwale, Musa Bility, Jerome Champagne and Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa.

FIFA's three-man election panel, led by audit committee chairman Domenico Scala, will announce next month which of the seven candidates have been officially accepted after integrity checks by the FIFA ethics committee.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canada's Pospisil into Valencia Open quarters

Vancouver's Vasek Pospisil reached the quarter-finals of the Valencia Open by beating Britain's Aljaz Bedene 6-3, 6-4 on Wednesday.

Pospisil fired seven aces and broke Bedene on two of six chances. The Canadian saved the only break point he faced.

Next up for Pospisil is either German qualifier Daniel Brands or top seed David Ferrer of Spain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TENNIS

Hurt Raonic forced to pull out in Paris

Milos Raonic's injury woes have forced him out of another high-profile tennis tournament in Paris.

Organizers of the Paris Masters confirmed Wednesday on Twitter that the hard-serving Canadian has withdrawn from the event because of a back injury.

The tournament is a crucial stop for players trying to lock down one of eight spots in the ATP Tour final. Raonic is currently ranked 14th in the race to the lucrative London tournament and is all but certain to miss out.

Milos Raonic AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Raonic also missed the French Open earlier this season after undergoing surgery to repair a nerve injury in his right foot.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Roasted Butternut Squash and Sweet Pear Soup

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

As comforting as your favourite nubby sweater, this soup has a subtle sweetness.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 2 lb butternut Squash, peeled, seeded and cut into 2 inch chunks
- 3 shallots, quartered
- 3 heirloom carrots, cut lengthwise and then in half
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 3 cup vegetable broth
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup apple cider or water
- 3/4 cup pear puree
- Sour cream or Greek style yogurt for garnish

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 F.
2. Place squash, shallots, carrots and garlic in a large bowl and toss with the olive oil and 1/4 teaspoon salt.
3. Spread vegetables in a single layer on a large, rimmed baking sheet and roast in the oven for 50 to 55 minutes, or until fork tender. Let cool.
4. Place vegetables and 2 cups of vegetable broth into a blender and puree until smooth. Pour the puree into a large sauce pan over medium-low heat and stir in the rest of the broth, milk, water or apple cider, pear puree and remaining salt. Allow soup to cook until hot for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
5. Serve with Greek style yogurt or sour cream.

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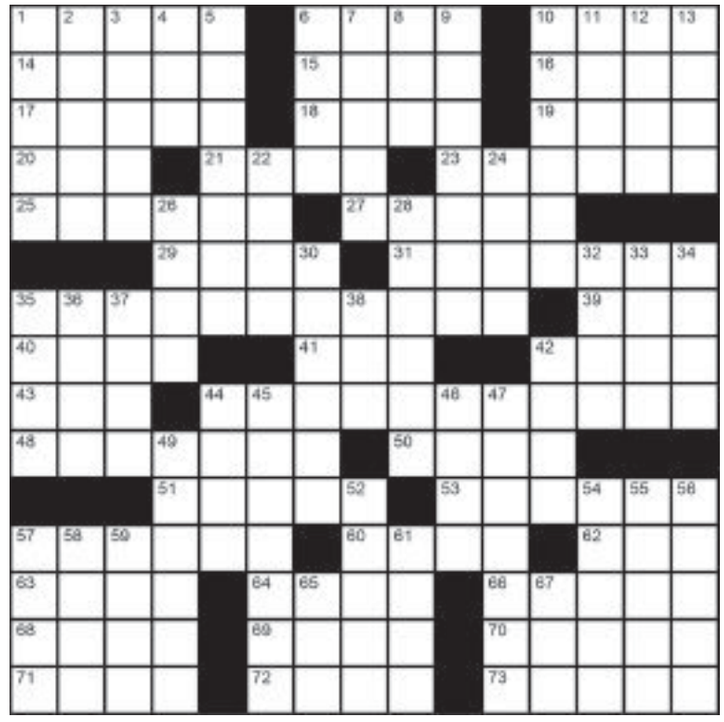
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Brainy
6. Crumbly soil
10. Crow's cries
14. _ New Guinea
15. Beauty cream ingredient
16. Butter substitute
17. Band of eight
18. Longing
19. Racetrack fence
20. Actress Charlotte
21. Canned fish
23. Shoot for
25. Variety of flatfish
27. Official Ii'l affirmatives from the planned party's invitees
29. Bellow
31. Overdue debts unpaid
35. Frankenstein author: 2 wds.
39. Actor Jason
40. Image
41. Person's story, for short
42. Archipelago part
43. Moo _ pork (Takeout dish)
44. Kiefer Sutherland is a vampire in what 1987 movie?: 3 wds.
48. Embark on a cruise: 2 wds.
50. Wall St. landmark, commonly
51. Centre point
53. Acapulco's locale
57. Malign
60. Suit piece
62. Bring in
63. Mine entrance
64. Depose
66. Squishy impact sound effect in comics
68. Hollywood legend Lillian
69. Fertilizer ingredient
70. Remove the pencil markings
71. Remain
72. Takes a chair
73. Wasteful place beneath the street

DOWN
1. Baseball, for example
2. Gambling mecca in China
3. More likely to
4. Regret
5. Arm 'sleeve' drawings
6. Key
7. Ritual site
8. Bird of myth
9. Port city of France: 2 mots
10. Coffin occupant
11. Jai _
12. CNN journalist Bill
13. Exclusive
22. Salt Lake City's locale
24. Agile
26. Welsh opera singer Mr. Terfel
28. Ghost town building
30. Riots
32. Moreover
33. Depend on
34. Notices
35. Pine for
36. Be sore
37. Really beat, in sports
38. Small, small-ly
42. Wild goat
44. Kite part
45. Horrific
46. Types of orchestras, for short
47. Bloodsucking bugs
49. Anvil-user's workshop
52. Remote's target: 2 wds.
54. "Monster-_-_" (2005)
55. Terminate
56. Weasel kin
57. Pre-riches duds
58. Modify
59. Certain credit card
61. Airport scr. postings
65. Mr. Geller
67. Before

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
It's not like you to have such a thin skin. Get over worrying about other people's reactions, because you will soon have to do something that not everyone will agree with.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Any worries about an affair of the heart will be laid to rest. You have never been more loved and admired. The sooner you recognize that fact the happier you will be.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If a relationship of a practical nature is to be a success you are going to have to give ground. No matter how independent-minded a Gemini you may be you must make an effort to meet others halfway today.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The next few days should get even better, especially if you have the courage to follow your instincts. Ignore those who dissuade.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You must be decisive when dealing with others. If you give the impression that you don't know what you are doing they may lose confidence in you and go to someone else for the advice and assistance they need.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may disapprove of what a friend is doing but don't tell them. According to the planets they are being forced by events over which they have no control. Maybe you should support them.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
After the trials and tribulations of the past few days what happens next will be more to your liking. You may even receive news of a windfall that solves a financial problem. Will it stop your reckless spending habits?

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Even if you are feeling a bit run down the Sun in your sign will revive you and give you a second wind. Be careful with money though. Spend less and save more.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A positive attitude is essential. Whatever issues you have to face, you are big enough and tough enough to deal with them. The right frame of mind will get you the right result.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Someone you meet on your travels could be very important to you career-wise. Once you have made contact be sure to develop a friendship.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The Sun in the career area of your chart will make it easier for you to take center stage. But once you have made a good impression you must keep it going. It is not enough to be a star just for a day or two.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If you have a longing to travel, to visit faraway places, you will almost certainly be on the move over the next few weeks. The Sun in Scorpio will awaken your sense of adventure. It's time to start doing!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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	8	1				7	5	
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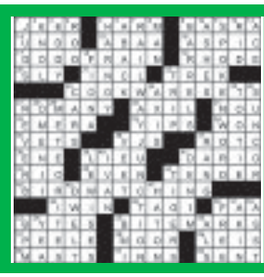

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